

10-22-1871

Letter from Marianne North, Niagra, Canada, to
Anne Whitney, Boston, Massachusetts, 1871
October 22

Marianne North

Wellesley College Archives

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Whitney Book



Ship Whitney
Laurence Buildings
Rooms 34

149th Fremont Street

Boston

Mass: U.S.

not write this week
direct to the Refman
house New York - I
hope to see Church
on my way there - I
shall see Philadelphia
Washington before
going South -
please give my kindest
regards to the Fields
if you see them as
well as the Bartholomews
I feel as if I was indebted
to all about Boston & I
who have been so very
good to me in leaving
Miss G. but she has
folded me so much
later than I have
with my constitutional
weakness & affectional
harassment North

Clifton Niagara
Canada
[1871]
October

I got your card a few days ago -

I am sorry I cannot come & see you at
the hours you name - but good luck
to your new studio & may great works
come out of it - I am sure they will
but fear my chance of seeing them
is small - as you are now likely
to trust them to a London exhibition
again - I fear - Mr. Skinner went
home on Friday - & I fear is vexed
that I did not go too - but this
whole journey has been to me a
painful & profitless rush - I
must stay & at least take in
better this most magnificent
of nature's wonders - If possible

make some sketches worth taking
home - so here I have been for a
week, I mean to stay another or
more - I am in nice quiet quarters
in a house kept by an old Swiss
The Swiss wife & two maids do
all the work there are no permanent
guests but myself - They are
very good to me - it is some way
from the falls, but suits me better
than the noisy Cataract house
with its 180 remaining guests -
I am really sorry to have parted
from Mrs. Kinner, & that she should
think me ungrateful for all her
kindness & hospitality during the
summer - God knows I am not -
but I see nothing but misery
in attempting any long & far off
journey with her, as her health
is so uncertain, with so much
of hysteria in it - & her requirements
of luxuries so great - During

This rush through Canada she
never found one hotel which suited
her - so what chance would she
have in the West Indies! & if serious
ill there it would be said I had
dragged her there - she would be
far better within reach of her son
at Boston, or if she must have
a milder climate, to return to
all her French luxuries in Algiers
which she is so fond of & where
she has so many friends - I am
quite sure travelling is no pleasure
to her - She did not like my seeing
people or things without her, I would
or could go nowhere herself,
except these terrible rushes from
one hotel to another - it is a
great relief being free again, able
to breathe - though I do sincerely
grieve that I have offended one
who has been so good to me -
but this place is so very glorious!
at all hours - the rainbows seem
everywhere perpetually on the water
the wind & cold I don't like so.

Please excuse my having no envelope -
it is so jolly lying in this glorious place
perfectly free to go or come as the mood
takes me -

enemies to contend with - but I am doing
my best to get some sketches - do write
me you don't think me quite a brute
to have stayed here - instead of squinting
at it & rushing on - after W. S. if you do

do write this week
direct to the Hopmann
house New York - I
hope to see Church
on my way there - I
shall see Philadelphia
Washington before
going South -
please give my kindest
regards to the Fields
if you see them as
well as the Bartholomews
& I feel as if I was ungrateful
to all about Boston
who have been so very
good to me in leaving
W. S. but she has
spoiled me so much
that I don't agree
with my constitution a bit!
- we grow so affectionate!
Marianne North